

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for introducing a drag reducer into a fluid stream comprising admixing the components of a drag reducer to form an incipient drag reducer and injecting the incipient drag reducer into the fluid stream wherein under conditions such that the incipient drag reducer components are admixed at the site of forms a drag reducer in the fluid stream.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the fluid stream is in a pipeline.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein the fluid stream is a hydrocarbon stream.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the product of passing a hydrocarbon stream from a geological formation through a desalter.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the product of passing a hydrocarbon stream from a geological formation through a dehydrator.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 3 wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the product of passing a hydrocarbon stream from a geological formation through a desalter and a dehydrator.

7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the components of the incipient drag reducer is prepared by admixing at least two components wherein the materials of the drag reducer formulation are divided between the at least two components have been first combined to form a smaller number of components, and then the smaller number of components are admixed to form the incipient drag reducer.

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 7 wherein the at least two smaller

number of components can beare admixed in varying ratios to produce an incipient drag reducer having varying properties.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the incipient drag reducer is injected at varying rates.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the ratio of the drag reducer components is varied according to the properties of the fluid stream.

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9 wherein the rate of injection of the incipient drag reducer is varied according to the rate of flow of the fluid ~~flow~~-stream.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 7 wherein the incipient drag reducer is prepared by admixing two components.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein a first drag reducer component ~~is comprises~~ an aluminum monocarboxylate in a hydrocarbon solvent, made from a fatty acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms, and ~~the a~~ second drag reducer component ~~is comprises~~ a carboxylic acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms.

14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein a first drag reducer component ~~is comprises~~ an aluminum dicarboxylate in a hydrocarbon solvent, made from a fatty acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms, and ~~the a~~ second drag reducer component ~~is comprises~~ a carboxylic acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the drag reducer components are admixed at sub-ambient temperatures.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the drag reducer components are admixed at supra-ambient temperatures.

Claims 17-20 (Withdrawn)